IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
WRIT PETITION NO.7627 OF 2005

Anti Corruption Committee
through the National President
Shri Ravindra Dwivedi... .. Petitioner
Vs
1. The State of Maharashtra
and ors. .. Respondents

Mr. G R. Dwivedi, for the petitioner.
Mr R.M.Patne, AGP for respondent nos. 1 to 3.
Mr Y.R.Mishra, for respondent no.4.

CORAM : V.G.PALSHIKAR, Ag.C.J., &
D.B.BHOSALE,J.
DATE : 16.11.2005.

PC:

1. By this petition, the petitioner has prayed for a direction to the respondents to grant permission to the petitioner to hold a rally and accord to that rally full police protection. The petitioner has also prayed for permission to hold a rally covering 24 States and 216 districts in India. Such permission is sought with the Government of Maharashtra, which has jurisdiction only over the State of Maharashtra.

2. The petitioner has styled itself as "Anti Corruption Committee", through the National President. In para 1, it is described as "All India Anti Corruption Committee" and its registration number is alleged as MAH/339/98 THN. Notice why the petition be not admitted was issued and the reply has been filed. In the reply, it is categorically contended that All India Anti-Corruption Committee is not registered in the State

of Maharashtra. One committee called "Bharastchar Nirmulan Samiti" is registered at F-7284 and the number the petitioner has cited in paragraph 1 in the petition is in the name of Bharastchar Nirmulan Samiti registered under the Co-operative Societies Act. The petitioner, as is described in the cause-title, is therefore, not duly registered body and, consequently, has no right to maintain such petition.

3. Apart from the fact that the petition cannot be entertained at the instance of a body which is not registered, in reply it is made clear by the respondent-State that permission to hold a rally over several districts can be obtained by approaching the competent authorities in each district and taluka as the case may be, which has the responsibility of maintaining the law and order in that jurisdiction. There is, therefore, no denial of any fundamental right of any individual to hold a rally. What has been prayed for is permission to hold rally throughout India. It is not pointed out what law requires such permission. Apart from that, to hold a rally or to express opinion is a right of an Indian citizen and it is not a right of national committee. No individual has approached this Court for any such relief. In such circumstances, we see no reason to interfere in this petition. The petition is dismissed with costs, which is quantified at

Rs.750/-.